Pending projects in Tamil Nadu

607. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) the details of various projects/plans pending implementation at various airports in Tamil Nadu;

(b) by when those projects will be completed;

(c) whether any time-frame has been set up;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) The airport-wise details of various projects/plans pending implementation in Tamil Nadu are as follows:— Chennai International Airport: Conversion of the existing International Terminal Building into International Arrival; Construction of Integrated Cargo Complex, Phase-II; strengthening of main runway; Extension of parallel taxi track to secondary runway; Expansion of Administrative Block; and Construction of accommodation for C.I.S.F. Coimbatore Airport: Extension of runway upto 9000 ft. to facilitate operation of wide bodied jet aircraft; and Construction of new International Terminal Building. Madurai Airport: Extension of runway upto 7500 ft. for operation of AB-320 class of aircraft; and Construction of new building complex for passengers along with car park. Trichy Airport: Construction of new Terminal Building Phase-II; and Extension of runway upto 7500 ft. for operation of AB-320 class of aircraft.

(b) to (e) Most of development schemes at Chennai airport are in planning/preliminary stages and hence no specific time-frame can be indicated. The upgradation plans at other airports *viz.* Coimbatore, Madurai and Trichy could not be taken up as the State Government has not yet handed over the requisite lands.

Decrease in revenue passengers

608. SHRIMATI S.G. INDIRA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the revenue passenger carried has decreased over the year from 7.635 million in 1994-95 to just 5.992 million in 2000-2001;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor; and

(c) what steps have been taken to increase the revenue passengers carried?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI SHRIPAD YESSO NAIK): (a) to (c) No, Sir. Indian Airlines passenger carriage, including that of the Alliance Air, increased from 7.635 million in 1994-95 to 7.695 million in 2000-2001.

The figure of 5.992 million passengers in 2000-2001 mentioned in the question refers to the passenger carriage of Indian Airlines alone, excluding Alliance Air.

Alliance Air has been operating the B-737 fleet of Indian Airlines since April 1996 on the network as earlier operated by Indian Airlines by B-737 aircraft.

Indian Airlines and Alliance Air, however, have taken the following measures to increase passenger carrriage on its system:—

Route rationalisation and development of aircraft based on market requirements.

Introduction of market responsible flexi-fare policy.

Innovative marketing strategies.

Replacement of ageing aircraft and augmentation of capacity.

Improvement in the quality of product/customer services.

Acquisition of new aircrafts by IA and AI

609. SHRI R.P. GOENKA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Air India and Indian Airlines have decided to acquire some new aircrafts to supplement their ageing fleets;

(b) if so, the details thereof, including the phased plans drawn up to acquire the additional aircraft and their proposed deployment;

(c) whether it is also a fact that recently a machinery has been establised to ensure that the two airlines desist from damaging each other's